

THE PARISHES OF ST MARGARET AND
ST MARK DUNHAM MASSEY

Trinity 1 Sunday 14th June 2020

Newsletter and Weekly Prayer Sheet

NOTES FROM THE PARISH PUMP

GOOD MORNING

Dear friends of St. Mark's hope our weekly sheet finds you all well.

F R O G [We all need one]



I was told a story about a lady who was in hospital, she was near to death when an area Chaplain came to visit her.

This Chaplain was a very young female who had long blonde hair. She listened to the lady who was very ill and left her a small gift for comfort, it was a tiny ceramic frog.

The next day one of her friends from church came to visit her. The lady told her friend about the beautiful young Chaplain who had visited her.

The friend was so impressed with the way the lady had improved she felt the need to talk to the young Chaplain. In her search to find the Chaplain she was repeatedly told that the Chaplains are never that young and that there was no one fitting that description.

When the friend returned to see the lady in hospital, a nurse entered the room and noticed the ceramic frog.

The nurse made the comment " I see you have a guardian angel with you " as she held the little frog. We asked why she made that comment and she said the frog stands for,

FOREVER RELY ON GOOD FRIENDS.



To the world you might be one person
But to one person you might be the world.

Friends are quiet angels who lift us to our feet when our wings have trouble remembering how to fly.

Friends are like balloons once you let them go you might not get them back.

We all need our friends in these uncertain times.

Love to you all. **STAY SAFE**



Joan and Sylvia.

Please log onto the church website
www.dunhamchurch.com

for our short weekly service.
Click on the News and events box in blue, scroll down to click in St Mark's service of the week.

The Collect

O God,
the strength of all those who put their trust in you,
mercifully accept our prayers
and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature
we can do no good thing without you,
grant us the help of your grace,
that in the keeping of your commandments
we may please you both in will and deed;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Readings

Matthew ch.9 v35 thru to ch10. v8

Thoughts for this week

As I begin my 13th week of working from home and as we ease our way out of lockdown I am reflecting on what good might have come from this terrible and unique situation we have found ourselves in.

I am lucky, although I work for the NHS, I am not longer in the front line as I stepped back from clinical practice five years ago. However, me and my team have continued to work to maintain health care training and education, adapting and repurposing the NHS to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

What has struck me most is the extraordinary acts of kindness, altruism and generosity shown, the camaraderie and the best of the “blitz spirit”, how folk have willingly gone the extra mile and done things they don’t normally do used skills they didn’t know they had and got the job done. We have been able to challenge and break down barriers of regulation and beurocracy and achieve innovation and change that would normally take years in a matter of weeks. I am immensely proud of everyone and it’s a real credit to how they were able to get NHS Nightingale Hospital North West up and running so quickly.

So what did we learn?

- Well first of all how important it was to keep in touch, especially with those enduring more stringent measures of shielding, setting up a buddy system with a daily phone call or even better video call .
- What really matters; and no surprises it’s not the flotsam and jetsam stuff that clutters our home and our daily lives, but the little things like being able to see family and friends even if it is socially distanced, a neighbouring leaving some flour on your doorstep because they got some when you couldn’t. It happened to me and it moved me to tears.
- Don’t go back – life will never be quite the same, we have all been touched by COVID in some way and whatever life is in the “new normal” it won’t be the same. It is Important to capture what was good about before and the learning from this difficult time and shape a better future.
- However great and raw the loss may be, we have hope.

Finally linking to a previous theme, our Church and our faith is like the lighthouse, that shines a light on our darkness, helps navigate through stormy seas and rocky shores to safety. Out of adversity, comes opportunity and to quote Captain Tom Moore, “tomorrow will be a good day”.

Jane Hobbs

Deputy Churchwarden St Margaret’s



Should you need the help of a Minister
Reverend Keith Hine can be contacted at :-
keithehine@gmail.com

01925 752213

07521 291815 (also on Whatsapp)

Should you need help or support :-
Pastoral Care Team

Jessica Murrills

jessicamurrills@icloud.com

0161 941 1568

Hope to see you soon.